

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1     1.     A method for programming a graphic control device, said method comprising:  
2             displaying said graphic control device that is controllable by a user to  
3     change a setting of said graphic control device;  
4             displaying characters in response to user input;  
5             moving said characters to intersect a region defined by said graphic  
6     control device; and  
7             programming a property of said graphic control device using said  
8     characters.

1     2.     The method of claim 1 wherein said characters includes textual characters,  
2     and wherein said programming includes programming a function of said graphic  
3     control device, said function being associated with said textual characters.

1     3.     The method of claim 2 further comprising labeling said graphic control device  
2     with said textual characters.

1     4.     The method of claim 1 wherein said characters includes numeric characters,  
2     and wherein said programming of said property includes programming a numeric  
3     setting of said graphic control device, said numeric setting being defined by said  
4     numeric characters.

1     5.     The method of claim 4 wherein said programming of said property includes  
2     programming a resolution of said graphic control device, said resolution being  
3     defined by said numeric characters.

1     6.     The method of claim 4 wherein said programming of said property includes  
2     programming a range of said graphic control device, said range being at least partially  
3     defined by said numeric characters.

1     7.     The method of claim 1 wherein said characters includes textual and numeric  
2 characters, and wherein said programming comprises:

3                 programming a function of said graphic control device, said function  
4 being associated with said textual characters; and

5                 programming a numeric setting of said graphic control device, said  
6 numeric setting being defined by said numeric characters.

1     8.     The method of claim 7 wherein said programming of said property includes  
2 programming a resolution of said graphic control device, said resolution being  
3 defined by said numeric characters.

1     9.     The method of claim 7 wherein said programming of said property includes  
2 programming a range of said graphic control device, said range being at least partially  
3 defined by said numeric characters.

1     10.    The method of claim 1 wherein said displaying of said graphic control device  
2 includes recognizing a hand drawn object as said graphic control device.

1     11.    A storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of  
2 instructions executable by said computer to perform method steps for programming a  
3 graphic control device, said method steps comprising:

4                 displaying said graphic control device that is controllable by a user to  
5 change a setting of said graphic control device;

6                 displaying characters in response to user input;

7                 moving said characters to intersect a region defined by said graphic  
8 control device; and

9                 programming a property of said graphic control device using said  
10 characters.

1 12. The storage medium of claim 11 wherein said characters includes textual  
2 characters, and wherein said programming includes programming a function of said  
3 graphic control device, said function being associated with said textual characters.

1 13. The storage medium of claim 12 further comprising labeling said graphic  
2 control device with said textual characters.

1 14. The storage medium of claim 11 wherein said characters includes numeric  
2 characters, and wherein said programming of said property includes programming a  
3 numeric setting of said graphic control device, said numeric setting being defined by  
4 said numeric characters.

1 15. The storage medium of claim 14 wherein said programming of said property  
2 includes programming a resolution of said graphic control device, said resolution  
3 being defined by said numeric characters.

1 16. The storage medium of claim 11 wherein said programming of said property  
2 includes programming a range of said graphic control device, said range being at least  
3 partially defined by said numeric characters.

1 17. The storage medium of claim 11 wherein said characters includes textual and  
2 numeric characters, and wherein said programming comprises:  
3 programming a function of said graphic control device, said function  
4 being associated with said textual characters; and  
5 programming a numeric setting of said graphic control device, said  
6 numeric setting being defined by said numeric characters.

1 18. The storage medium of claim 17 wherein said programming of said property  
2 includes programming a resolution of said graphic control device, said resolution  
3 being defined by said numeric characters.

1 19. The storage medium of claim 17 wherein said programming of said property  
2 includes programming a range of said graphic control device, said range being at least  
3 partially defined by said numeric characters.

1 20. The storage medium of claim 11 wherein said displaying of said graphic  
2 control device includes recognizing a hand drawn object as said graphic control  
3 device.

1 21. A method for programming a graphic control device, said method comprising:  
2 displaying said graphic control device that is controllable by a user to  
3 change a setting of said graphic control device;  
4 displaying characters in response to user input;  
5 graphically associating said characters to said graphic control device in  
6 response to user input; and  
7 programming a property of said graphic control device using said  
8 characters.

1 22. The method of claim 21 wherein said graphically associating includes  
2 assigning a relationship between said characters and said graphic control device in  
3 response a graphic directional indicator drawn from said characters to said graphic  
4 control device.

1 23. The method of claim 22 wherein said graphic directional indicator includes an  
2 arrow.

1 24. The method of claim 21 wherein said graphically associating includes  
2 grouping said characters and said graphic control device together in response said  
3 user input.

5